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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/587,015	07/21/2006	Masato Nishizawa	9319S-001734/US/NP	1999
27572 7590 06/30/2009 HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. BOX 828 BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48303				
EXAMINER HICKS, CHARLES V				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2629				
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/587,015

**Applicant(s)**

NISHIZAWA ET AL.

**Examiner**

CHARLES HICKS

**Art Unit**

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 July 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/550)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/26/2008/07/21/2006

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakai et al. (US 6,054,974) in view of Huang et al. (US 6,268,840).

In reference to claim 1, Sakai teaches a cholesteric liquid crystal driving device comprising (Sakai, Fig. 34; col. 1, ll. 11-60):

a detection circuit for detecting a first scanning line and a second scanning line (Sakai, col. 3, ll. 14-36),

wherein, in image data having two or more gray levels to be displayed by a plurality of cholesteric liquid crystals provided at intersections of a plurality of scanning lines and a plurality of data lines, the orientation of each of the plurality of cholesteric liquid crystals being defined in a P-orientation, an F-orientation, or an H-orientation in accordance with a voltage between the corresponding scanning lines and the corresponding data lines, one part of the image data corresponding to a cholesteric liquid crystal on the first scanning line has different gray levels other than a halftone and another part of the image data corresponding to a cholesteric liquid crystal on the second scanning line has the same gray level other than the halftone (Sakai, col. 1, ll. 11-60);

a first driving circuit for displaying, on the basis of a detection result for the first scanning line by the detection circuit, the one part of the image data to be displayed by the cholesteric liquid crystal on each of a plurality of first scanning lines by driving the cholesteric liquid crystal on each of the plurality of first scanning lines in accordance with a first cycle including a reset period for resetting the cholesteric liquid crystal in the H-orientation, a selection period for selecting the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is reset in the H-orientation, in a TP orientation, and a holding period for holding the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is selected in the TP orientation, in the F-orientation and in accordance with a second cycle including a reset period for resetting the cholesteric liquid crystal in the H-orientation, a selection period for selecting the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is reset in the H-orientation, in the H-orientation, and a holding period for

holding the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is selected in the H-orientation, in the P-orientation (Sakai, col. 10, ll. 44—col. 11, ll. 31),

and a second driving circuit for displaying, on the basis of a detection result for the second scanning line by the detection circuit, the other part of the image data to be displayed by the cholesteric liquid crystal on each of a plurality of second scanning lines by driving the cholesteric liquid crystal on each of the plurality of second scanning lines in accordance with a third cycle including a reset period for resetting the cholesteric liquid crystal in the H-orientation and a holding period for holding the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is reset in the H-orientation, in the F-orientation or in accordance with a fourth cycle including a reset period for resetting the cholesteric liquid crystal in the H-orientation, the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is reset in the H-orientation, being transit to the TP orientation at the end of the reset period, and by collectively selecting and driving the plurality of second scanning lines during each of the reset period and the holding period in the third and fourth cycles or by sequentially selecting and driving the plurality of second scanning lines by shifting by the selection period during each of the reset period and the holding period in the third and fourth cycles (Sakai, col. 10, ll. 44—col. 11, ll. 31).

Sakai however fails to teach sequentially selecting and driving the plurality of first scanning lines using a pipeline system such that the selection periods do not overlap with each other during each of the reset period, the selection period, and the holding period in the first and second cycles.

Huang discloses a liquid crystal display device, analogous in art with that of Sakai, wherein there is sequential selecting and driving the plurality of first scanning lines using a pipeline system such that the selection periods do not overlap with each other during each of the reset period, the selection period, and the holding period in the first and second cycles (Huang, Abstract, col. 2, ll. 16-19, col. 7, ll. 20-34).

At the time the invention was made it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the liquid crystal device of Sakai such that there is sequential selecting and driving the plurality of first scanning lines using a pipeline system such that the selection periods do not overlap with each other during each of the reset period, the selection period, and the holding period in the first and second cycles, as taught by Huang.

As one of ordinary skill in the art would appreciate, the suggestion/motivation would have been to reduce the total updating time for the display (Huang, Abstract).

In reference to claim 2, Sakai teaches a cholesteric liquid crystal driving method comprising (Sakai, Fig. 34; col. 1, ll. 11-60):

a detection step of detecting a first scanning line and a second scanning line (Sakai, col. 3, ll. 14-36),

wherein, in image data having two or more gray levels to be displayed by a plurality of cholesteric liquid crystals provided at intersections of a plurality of

scanning lines and a plurality of data lines, the orientation of each of the plurality of cholesteric liquid crystals being defined in a P-orientation, an F-orientation, or an H-orientation in accordance with a voltage between the corresponding scanning lines and the corresponding data lines, one part of the image data corresponding to a cholesteric liquid crystal on the first scanning line has different gray levels other than a halftone and another part of the image data corresponding to a cholesteric liquid crystal on the second scanning line has the same gray level other than the halftone (Sakai, col. 1, ll. 11-60);

a first driving step of displaying, on the basis of a detection result for the first scanning line by the detection step, the one part of the image data to be displayed by the cholesteric liquid crystal on each of a plurality of first scanning lines by driving the cholesteric liquid crystal on each of the plurality of first scanning lines in accordance with a first cycle including a reset period for resetting the cholesteric liquid crystal in the H-orientation, a selection period for selecting the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is reset in the H-orientation, in a TP orientation, and a holding period for holding the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is selected in the TP orientation, in the F-orientation and in accordance with a second cycle including a reset period for resetting the cholesteric liquid crystal in the H-orientation, a selection period for selecting the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is reset in the H-orientation, in the H-orientation, and a holding period for holding the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is selected in the H-orientation, in the P-orientation(Sakai, col. 10, ll. 44—col. 11, ll. 31),

and a second driving step of displaying, on the basis of a detection result for the second scanning line by the detection step, the other part of the image data to be displayed by the cholesteric liquid crystal on each of a plurality of second scanning lines by driving the cholesteric liquid crystal on each of the plurality of second scanning lines in accordance with a third cycle including a reset period for resetting the cholesteric liquid crystal in the H-orientation and a holding period for holding the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is reset in the H-orientation, in the F-orientation or in accordance with a fourth cycle including a reset period for resetting the cholesteric liquid crystal in the H-orientation, the cholesteric liquid crystal, which is reset in the H-orientation, being transit to the TP orientation at the end of the reset period, and by collectively selecting and driving the plurality of second scanning lines during each of the reset period and the holding period in the third and fourth cycles or by sequentially selecting and driving the plurality of second scanning lines by shifting by the selection period during each of the reset period and the holding period in the third and fourth cycles (Sakai, col. 10, ll. 44—col. 11, ll. 31).

Sakai however fails to teach sequentially selecting and driving the plurality of first scanning lines using a pipeline system such that the selection periods do not overlap with each other during each of the reset period, the selection period, and the holding period in the first and second cycles;

Huang discloses a liquid crystal display device, analogous in art with that of Sakai, wherein there is sequential selecting and driving the plurality of first



scanning lines using a pipeline system such that the selection periods do not overlap with each other during each of the reset period, the selection period, and the holding period in the first and second cycles (Huang, Abstract, col. 2, ll. 16-19, col. 7, ll. 20-34).

At the time the invention was made it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the liquid crystal device of Sakai such that there is sequential selecting and driving the plurality of first scanning lines using a pipeline system such that the selection periods do not overlap with each other during each of the reset period, the selection period, and the holding period in the first and second cycles, as taught by Huang.

As one of ordinary skill in the art would appreciate, the suggestion/motivation would have been to reduce the total updating time for the display (Huang, Abstract).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHARLES HICKS whose telephone number is 571-270-7535. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz, can be reached on 571-272-3638. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Sumati Lefkowitz/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629